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Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 12836 031112Z

17
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
---------- 106585
O P 031042Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8140
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 12836

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO PFOR NAC OVIP(KISSINGER,H.)
SUBJ: NATOMIN: SECRETARY'S SCHEDULE - BITSIOS BILATERAL

REF: STATE 293985

1. I SPOKE TO FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS THIS MORNING AND CONVEYED THE INFORMATION CONTAINED REFTEL. BITSIOS SAID HE WAS VERY SORRY BUT WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO MEET WITH THE SECRETARY ON WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 8, BECAUSE HE WAS NOT ARRIVING IN BRUSSELS UNTIL THAT AFTERNOON.

2. BITSIOS SAID HE BELIEVED IT IMPORTANT THAT HE AND THE SECRETARY HAVE A CHANCE TO TALK, AND HE SUGGESTED AS HIS FIRST PREFERENCE THAT THE TWO OF THEM GET TOGETHER IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE CLOSE OF THE SESSION FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 10. BITSIOS SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THERE WAS SOME KIND OF A BUFFET SCHEDULED THEN BUT THAT HE DID NOT SEE A NEED TO GO TO IT SINCE HE WILL HAVE ATTENDED THE LUNCH AND DINNER THE PREVIOUS DAY. IF THE SECRETARY WOULD NOT BE FREE AT THAT TIME, BITSIOS SAID PERHAPS THEY COULD MEET LATER THAT AFTERNOON (FRIDAY) ABOUT 5:00 OR 6:00 P.M., WHENEVER IT WOULD BE CONVENIENT FOR THE SECRETARY. IF THAT ALSO WERE NOT FEASIBLE, BITSIOS
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PAGE 02 ATHENS 12836 031112Z

SAID HE WOULD BE OPEN FOR A SUGGESTION FOR THEM TO

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

MEET SOMETIME ON THURSDAY THE 9TH, BUT HE THOUGHT
THAT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT BECAUSE EVERYONE WOULD
BE SO SQUEEZED FOR TIME THAT DAY.

3. BITSIOS SAID HE WOULD AWAIT WORD ON ANY FURTHER
SUGGESTIONS WE HAVE. WE WILL ALSO LET DEPARTMENT
KNOW LATER WHICH OTHER GREEK OFFICIALS WOULD ACCOMP-
ANY BITSIOS FOR SUCH A MEETING, IF IT CAN BE SCHEDUL-
ED. IN ANY CASE, NO TRANSLATOR WOULD BE REQUIRED.
KUBISCH

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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US Department of State
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